Kevin Smith

SWDV 691 – Software Development Capstone

Final Capstone Project Assessment

8/21/2020

1. I began this project after taking the Business Web Development and User Interface Design courses. Websites aren’t exactly original ideas however all the work done on this site is my own. I have included two unoriginal images by request of the store owners, the header image and the stock photo of the pharmacist and the customer. I didn’t do it all off the top of my head however, I used a plethora of online resources and course materials. At this point I think I have a pretty good site going but I still have lots of work to do.
2. When run locally on my machine the site surpasses all my original expectations. The live version is the same however I am still unable to present the store items from the database. As far as the user interface goes, I think it is functional and styled appropriately however there is still work to be done.
3. I have done extensive testing on my MySQL database and have altered and rebuilt it several times. Every time I ran into an obstacle with accessing or manipulating the data, it turned out that the structure of the database needed adjusting. In the end on my local machine the database and interface work together seamlessly and intuitively. Online however I had to switch gears completely and change over to a DynamoDB. This seems to be working but I need more time to work through it.
4. I started with a flask api that I found in a tutorial. After sifting through it and understanding how it worked, I built my shopping page around it. As mentioned, it works well on my local machine but not so much online. Once I started migrating the database and api’s to aws I met my biggest challenges. I wound up changing everything related to the database and the flask api and have deployed them to my aws account using the serverless methods I found online. Currently the web site and the DynamoDB are communicating however I need more time to figure out how to present the data on the interface. If you go to <http://tallmansrx.com> and click on the Hallmark image, right side, you will be presented with a very boring blank page. But if you check the console log you will see that the XHR GET request has been made to my aws endpoint and it returns a status code: 200 OK, as well as the product json data. I only have one item in the database currently. There will be some other warnings and errors in there as well that I plan to remedy eventually. And CORS is a beast so that is another thing I intend to focus on in the future, luckily flask has a method that solved my problem for now.
5. My web application is deployed and technically usable. Navigating through it is intuitive and easy and the site does communicate via the middleware flask api to the DynamoDB database. I say technically because the current state of the shopping page is incomplete. The information is requested and returned however I need more time to translate the response into what I have been doing with the project so far. I have created a short video showing how all the parts work on my local machine it can be found on my GitHub at https://github.com/kevin6541/SWDV691. I still have some more interfaces to create once I have rebuilt my database and have the page functioning as intended.